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Amendment to the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 3-5, 7-8, 15-16, and 23-27 as indicated below. Please cancel claims 2, 6, 10-14, 18-20 and 28-37.

1. (Currently Amended) A data communications method comprising:

~~providing configuration parameters regarding capabilities associated with a receiving device and usable to implement scaling of media data to be recieved;~~

~~receiving media data scaled according to the configuration parameters and comprising a plurality of frames for generating a plurality of respective images;~~

receiving a media data stream organized in accordance with a frame prediction data structure which comprises compressed anchor frames and a plurality of compressed bi-directionally predicted frames (B-frames) which are associated with the anchor frames, and the media data stream also including a table of contents (TOC) which points to the location in the media data stream where each frame in the stream begins;

initially decoding only the anchor frames and storing them;

~~initially decoding compressed media data for an initial one of the frames and less than all of the frames;~~ initially displaying at least one visual image using an anchor frame ~~the initially decoded media data~~;

receiving a request to change the displaying of the at least one visual image from a user input device which requires another frame to be displayed;

randomly accessing the other frame by looking up its location in the TOC;

responsive to the other frame being a B-frame, decoding the B-frame using one of the stored and decoded anchor frames which is associated with the B-frame, the decoding of the B-frame being out of sequence with respect to any B-frames that may be between one of the associated anchor frames and the B-frame ~~randomly selecting an other of the frames after the displaying; subsequently decoding compressed media data of the other of the frames after the initially decoding and the initially displaying;~~ and

~~subsequently~~ displaying ~~an other~~ another visual image using the ~~subsequently decoded~~ randomly accessed frame ~~media data~~.

2. (Cancelled).

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3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the media data stream further comprises ~~data~~ for a plurality of multiple sequences of frames organized in the frame prediction data structure, ~~visual images~~ the sequences being synchronized with one another and the TOC pointing to the location in the media data stream where each frame in the stream begins in accordance with a sequence number and a location of the frame within a sequence identified by the sequence number.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1 further comprising accessing a user input entered responsive to user navigation of the at least one visual image, and wherein the randomly selecting comprises selecting the other of the frames responsive to the user input~~ 3 wherein the synchronized sequences include a base sequence in which the anchor frames are all Intra code frames (I-frames) and at least one other synchronized sequence in which the anchor frames include predicatively coded (P-frames); and wherein an I-frame in the base sequence predicts a P-frame in the at least one other synchronized sequence.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1 wherein the compressed media data comprises data for a sequence of a plurality of images, and the randomly selecting comprises selecting the other of the frames out of sequence~~ wherein the synchronized sequences include a base sequence in which the anchor frames include at least one P-frame and at least one other synchronized sequence in which the anchor frames include at least one P-frame; and wherein the P-frame in the base sequence predicts the at least one P-frame in the at least one other synchronized sequence.

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

providing configuration parameters regarding capabilities associated with a receiving device and usable to implement scaling of media data to be received; and

receiving media data scaled according to the configuration parameters and comprising a plurality of frames for generating a plurality of respective images

~~accessing the configuration parameters within a sending device; and scaling the compressed media data according to the configuration parameters to provide data~~

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~~steams of the compressed media data comprising different amounts of data for a given subject.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 further comprising ~~wherein the scaling comprises scaling according to at least one of temporal, spatial, signal to noise ratio, and interactivity scaling attributes~~ accessing the configuration parameters within a sending device; and scaling the compressed media data according to the configuration parameters to provide data streams of the compressed media data comprising different amounts of data for a given subject.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the frames individually comprise temporal, spatial, signal-to-noise ratio, and interactivity levels of scalability.

Claims 10.-14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) A compressed media data decoder comprising:

an interface configured to access compressed media data comprising a plurality of frames usable to generate a plurality of respective images, wherein the compressed media data is organized in accordance with a frame prediction data structure which comprises compressed anchor frames and a plurality of compressed bi-directionally predicted frames (B-frames) which are associated with the anchor frames, and the media data also includes a table of contents (TOC) which points to the location in the media data where each frame begins ~~wherein the frames comprise a plurality of frame types~~; and

processing circuitry coupled with the interface and configured to initially decode only the anchor frames and store them in a memory ~~a first type of the frames at an initial moment in time to initiate viewing of at least one of the images~~, to control a display to depict [[the]] at least one image using an anchor frame, to access a data request for depiction of another one of the images after the depiction of the at least one image, to randomly access another frame by looking up its location in the TOC, and responsive to the other frame being a B-frame, to decode the B-frame using one of the stored and decoded anchor frames associated with the B-frame, the decoding of the B-frame being out of sequence with respect to any B-frames that may be between one of the associated anchor frames and the B-frame ~~to decode the compressed media~~

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~~data of another frame comprising a second type of frame using the initially decoded media data of the frame corresponding to the at least one image~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The decoder of claim 15 wherein the data requests are generated responsive to user interaction with the at least one image, and the processing circuitry is configured to initially decode the ~~first type of~~ anchor frames without user input.

17. (Original) The decoder of claim 15 wherein the compressed media data comprises data for a sequence of a plurality of images comprising a linear order, and the processing circuitry is configured to decode the compressed media data of the another frame out of sequence and responsive to user input.

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Cancelled).

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Original) The decoder of claim 15 wherein the processing circuitry is further configured to provide configuration parameters corresponding to capabilities of a recipient communications device associated with the compressed media data decoder, and wherein the compressed media data comprises data scaled according to the configuration parameters.

22. (Original) The decoder of claim 21 wherein the processing circuitry is configured to decode the scaled data.

23. (Currently Amended) The decoder of claim 15 wherein the processing circuitry is configured to decode no more than a single one of the ~~second type of frames~~ B-frames to depict the another one of the images.

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24. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having encoded there on processor executable instructions, which when executed by the processor cause the processor to perform a data communications method, the method comprising:

receiving a media data stream organized in accordance with a frame prediction data structure which comprises compressed anchor frames and a plurality of compressed bi-directionally predicted frames (B-frames) which are associated with the anchor frames, and the media data stream also including a table of contents (TOC) which points to the location in the media data stream where each frame in the stream begins;

initially decoding only the anchor frames and storing them;

initially displaying at least one visual image using an anchor frame;

receiving a request to change the displaying of the at least one visual image from a user input device which requires another frame to be displayed;

randomly accessing the other frame by looking up its location in the TOC;

responsive to the other frame being a B-frame, decoding the B-frame using one of the stored and decoded anchor frames which is associated with the B-frame, the decoding of the B-frame being out of sequence with respect to any B-frames that may be between the one of the associated anchor frames and the B-frame; and

displaying another visual image using the randomly accessed frame

~~An article of manufacture comprising: processor usable media comprising programming configured to cause processing circuitry to: access compressed media data of a plurality of frames for a plurality of images of a sequence; access a plurality of data requests with respect to the compressed media data; select at least some of the frames for decoding responsive to the data requests; decode the compressed media data of the selected frames, wherein the selecting and decoding comprise selecting and decoding the compressed media data of the frames out of sequence; implement generation of respective images using the decoded media data.~~

25. (Currently Amended) ~~The article of claim 24 wherein the compressed media data comprises data of the frames arranged in a linear order corresponding to the sequence of the images~~ The computer readable medium of claim 24 wherein the media data stream further comprises a plurality of multiple sequences of frames organized in the frame prediction data structure, the sequences being synchronized with one another and the TOC pointing to the location in the media data stream where each frame in the

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stream begins in accordance with a sequence number and a location of the frame within a sequence identified by the sequence number.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~The article of claim 24 wherein the decoding comprises decoding the compressed media data of the selected ones of the frames in real time during user navigation of at least one of the images~~ The computer readable medium of claim 25 wherein the synchronized sequences include a base sequence in which the anchor frames are all Intra code frames (I-frames) and at least one other synchronized sequence in which the anchor frames include predicatively coded (P-frames); and wherein an I-frame in the base sequence predicts a P-frame in the at least one other synchronized sequence.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~The article of claim 24 wherein the programming is configured to cause processing circuitry to initiate decoding of at least some of the compressed media data without user input, and the data requests are generated responsive to user navigation of an image generated using media data decoded without the user input~~ The computer readable medium of claim 25 wherein the synchronized sequences include a base sequence in which the anchor frames include at least one P-frame and at least one other synchronized sequence in which the anchor frames include at least one P-frame; and wherein the P-frame in the base sequence predicts the at least one P-frame in the at least one other synchronized sequence.

Claims 28.-37. (Cancelled).

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